



Australian Bureau of Statistics

1307.4 - South Australian Economic Indicators, Mar 2005

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Summary

Main Features

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication provides an up-to-date overview of the South Australian economy and contrasts the state's performance with that of the Australian economy. It provides details of movements in a range of economic and social indicators.

IMPORTANT NOTE

This is the final issue of South Australian Economic Indicators (cat. no. 1307.4).

Development of a replacement product is currently underway. If you would like to be notified of the release of this replacement product, please contact Liz Finlay on ph: (08) 8237 7417 or alternatively e-mail <elizabeth.finlay@abs.gov.au>.

OVERVIEW

The data in this overview are presented in trend terms, unless otherwise stated.

Included in this overview are Statistical Summary tables showing comparisons between South Australia and Australia for a variety of economic and social indicators. Also included is a State Summary, showing the performance of all states and territories for selected indicators.

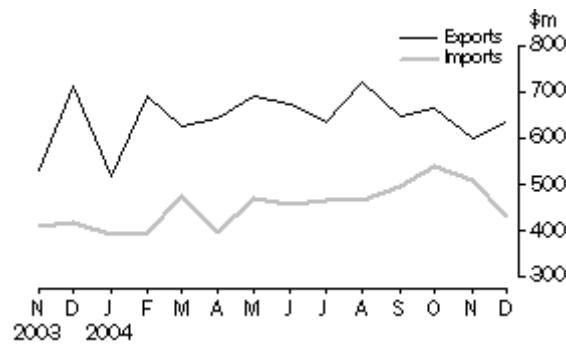
Further detail on all the indicators shown below can be obtained by accessing the latest data cube attached to this publication. This data cube is available within the **Related Links** section on this page.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The value of South Australian merchandise exports (in original terms) for the month of December 2004 was \$635.2m. This was an increase of 5.5% from the previous month but a decrease of 11.2% from December 2003 (\$715.0m).

The value of South Australian merchandise imports (in original terms) for December 2004 was \$430.8m. This was a decrease of 15.5% from the \$509.9m recorded in November 2004, but 3.7% more than the December 2003 figure of \$415.5m.

Merchandise Exports and Imports

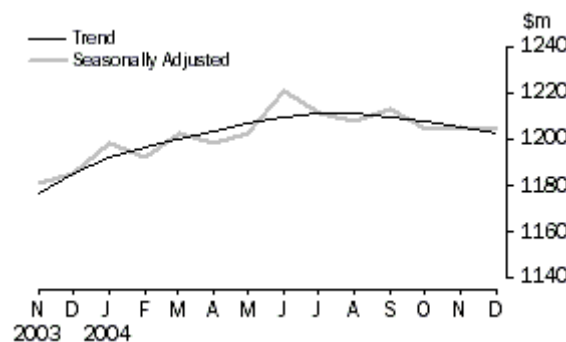


- See International Merchandise Imports, Australia (Timeseries, cat. no. 5439.0), International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia (cat. no. 5368.0)

CONSUMPTION AND INVESTMENT

Total retail turnover decreased 0.2% from November 2004 (\$1,205.8m) to \$1,203.2m in December 2004. This was 1.5% more than the figure recorded for total retail turnover in December 2003 (\$1,185.5m).

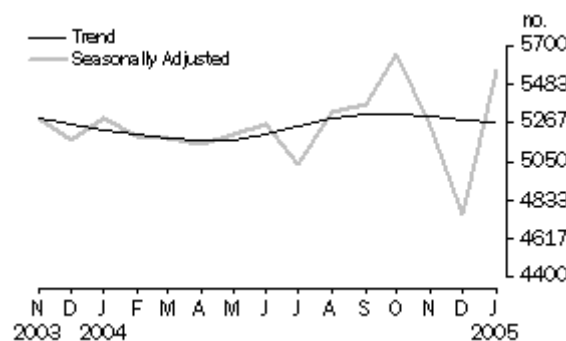
Retail Turnover



- See Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0)

January 2005 saw a total of 5,274 new motor vehicle sales. This was 0.9% higher than the sales recorded in January 2004 (5,227).

New Motor Vehicle Sales



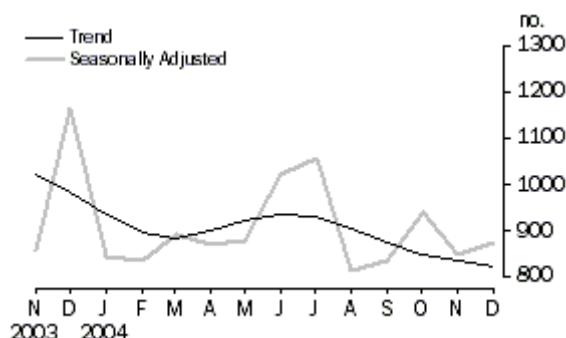
- See Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia (cat. no. 9314.0)

HOUSING

The estimated total number of dwelling units approved in December 2004 in South Australia

was 820, 1.6% lower than in November 2004 (833). The number of dwelling units approved declined by 16.6% in the year to December 2004.

Dwelling Units Approved

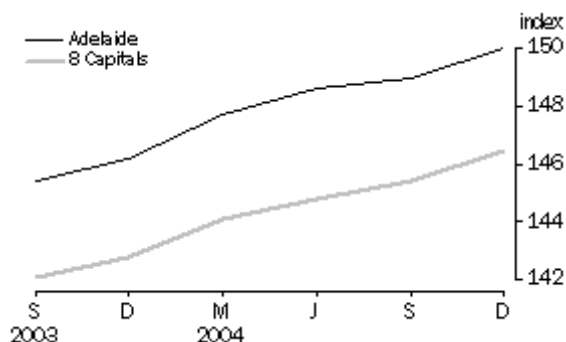


See Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0)

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The all groups consumer price index in Adelaide for the December quarter 2004 was 150.0, an increase of 2.6% on the level recorded for the same period in 2003 and an increase of 0.7% on the September quarter 2004.

Consumer Price Index

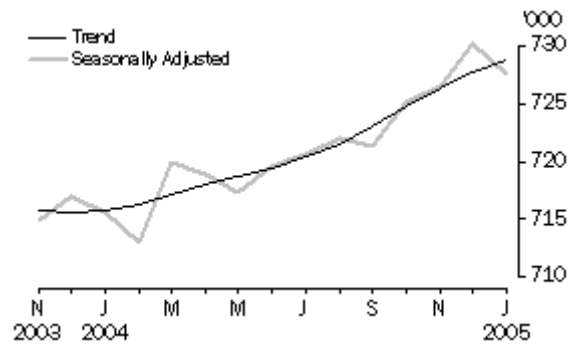


- See Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0)

LABOUR FORCE AND DEMOGRAPHYY

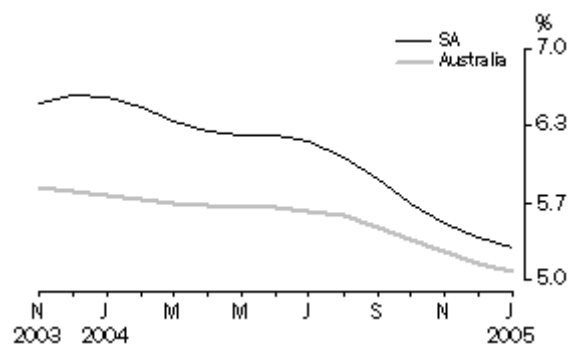
The trend estimate of employed persons in South Australia was 728,900 in January 2005, 13,200 or 1.8% higher than in January 2004. In January 2005 there were 503,600 persons employed full-time in South Australia compared with 489,200 in January 2004.

Employed Persons



The trend estimate of the unemployment rate for the state was 5.3% in January 2005, lower than the January 2004 estimate of 6.6%. The participation rate in South Australia was 61.4% in January 2005 compared with 61.6% in January 2004.

Unemployment Rate - Trend

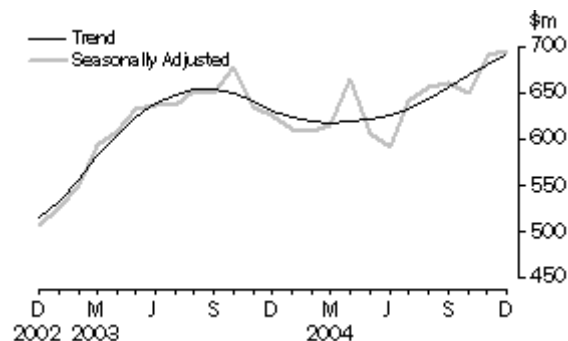


- See Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

FINANCIAL MARKETS

The value of secured housing finance commitments for owner occupation was \$691.6m in December 2004. This was an increase of 1.5% from the previous month and 9.4% more than the value of commitments in December 2003 (\$631.9m).

Secured Housing Finance Commitments (a)



(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

- See Housing Finance, Australia (cat. no. 5609.0)

STATISTICAL SUMMARY Part 1

Indicator	Period	South Australia			Australia			SA as a % of Australia	Source index
		Number	% change from		Number	% change from			
			Previous period	Same period previous year		Previous period	Same period previous year		
State accounts									
Domestic final demand									
Chain volume measures trend (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	14,942	1.0	4.4	209,885	0.8	4.9	7.1	1
Private final consumption expenditure									
Current prices trend (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	9,258	1.2	6.2	125,755	1.4	6.7	7.4	1
Chain volume measures trend (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	8,970	0.6	4.2	123,168	1.0	5.3	7.3	1
Private gross fixed capital formation									
Current prices trend (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	2,938	2.7	5.0	43,542	1.0	5.6	6.7	1
Chain volume measures trend (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	2,946	2.5	5.3	42,848	0.6	5.0	6.9	1
Compensation of employees									
Current prices trend (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	6,272	2.5	6.3	98,463	1.5	6.2	6.4	1
International accounts									
Exports (\$m)	Dec 04	635.2	5.5	-11.2	10,637.1	5.7	15.2	6.0	2
Imports (\$m)	Dec 04	430.8	-15.5	3.7	12,404.8	-5.7	13.0	3.5	2
Consumption and investment									
Retail turnover									
Current prices original (\$m)	Dec 04	1,575.3	25.8	4.0	21,356.6	25.6	3.7	7.4	3
Current prices trend (\$m)	Dec 04	1,203.2	-0.2	1.5	16,403.5	-0.3	1.9	7.3	3
Chain volume measures original (\$m)	Dec qtr 04	4,018.6	14.9	2.1	54,693.8	13.8	2.5	7.3	3
New motor vehicle sales									
Original (no.)	Jan 05	4,466	-10.6	3.0	69,565	-11.9	7.4	6.4	4
Trend (no.)	Jan 05	5,274	-0.2	0.9	82,675	0.6	6.2	6.4	4
Private new capital expenditure									
Current prices original (\$m)	Dec qtr 04	1,080	30.3	0.1	14,965	17.0	8.6	7.2	5
Current prices trend (\$m)	Dec qtr 04	943	-1.3	-3.6	13,779	3.7	7.9	6.8	5

Private new capital expenditure (\$m)	2003-04	3,948	-1.4	..	51,247	0.9	..	7.6	5
Tourist accommodation takings (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	62.7	2.9	3.5	1,485.7	16.3	8.2	4.2	6
Production									
Dwelling unit approvals									
Original (no.)	Dec 04	874	-3.1	-26.7	12,790	-2.3	-10.9	6.8	7
Trend (no.)	Dec 04	820	-1.6	-16.6	12,415	-1.1	-16.4	6.6	7
Dwelling units commenced (no.)	Sep qtr 04	2,434	-3.6	-4.3	42,532	1.8	-2.9	5.7	8
Value of non-residential building approvals-trend (\$m)	Dec 04	68.8	-5.1	-32.5	1,364.7	-1.8	3.0	5.0	7777
Value of total building activity									
Commenced (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	659.4	-3.9	-5.7	13,936.9	3.2	8.2	4.7	8
Work done (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	827.1	9.2	23.2	14,713.1	4.5	14.7	5.6	8
Work yet to be done (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	1,162.0	-9.1	5.7	23,850.9	0.8	10.7	4.9	8
Value of engineering construction work done (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	377.7	-22.5	-14.1	7,224.8	-4.8	15.7	5.2	9
Manufacturing production									
Red meat trend (tonnes)	Dec qtr 04	60,720	2.9	2.9	771,769	-0.0	3.9	7.9	10
Mineral exploration expenditure (other than for petroleum) (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	15.5	-1.3	66.7	251.1	4.0	40.2	6.2	11

STATISTICAL SUMMARY Part 2

Indicator	Period	South Australia			Australia			SA as a % of Australia	Source index
		Number	% change from		Number	% change from			
			Previous period	Same period previous year		Previous period	Same period previous year		
Prices (a)									
CPI- All groups (index no.)	Dec qtr 04	150.0	0.7	2.6	146.5	0.8	2.6	..	12
Price index of materials used in house building (index no.)	Dec qtr 04	142.9	0.6	4.1	138.3	0.8	3.5	..	13

Price index of established houses (index no.)	Sep qtr 04	235.8	1.3	13.8	250.3	-0.7	8.2	..	14
Price index of project homes (index no.)	Sep qtr 04	169.5	0.0	5.5	160.3	1.2	6.0	..	14
Labour force and demography									
Population (resident at end qtr) ('000)	Jun qtr 04	1,534.3	0.1	0.5	20,111.3	0.2	1.2	7.6	15
Natural increase of the population ('000)	Jun qtr 04	1,559.0	-6.8	12.4	35,259.0	33.8	19.1	4.4	15
Labour Force Original ('000)	Jan 05	768.6	-1.2	0.7	10,343.7	-1.3	2.5	7.4	16
Trend ('000)	Jan 05	769.6	0.078	0.457	10,378.0	0.192	2.134	7.4	16
Employed persons Original ('000)	Jan 05	719.6	-2.7	1.7	9,764.6	-1.8	3.2	7.4	16
Trend ('000)	Jan 05	728.9	0.2	1.8	9,851.6	0.3	2.9	7.4	16
Participation rate Original (b) (%)	Jan 05	61.3	-0.8	-0.1	63.7	-0.9	0.6	..	16
Trend (b) (%)	Jan 05	61.4	0.0	-0.2	63.9	0.1	0.4	..	16
Unemployment rate Original (b) (%)	Jan 05	6.4	1.4	-1.0	5.6	0.6	-0.6	..	16
Trend (b) (%)	Jan 05	5.3	-0.1	-1.3	5.1	0.0	-0.6	..	16
Job vacancies ('000)	Nov 04	7.5	7.2	86.1	137.1	7.4	29.7	5.5	17
Industrial disputes ('000 working days lost)	Sep qtr 04	1.1	-26.7	-69.4	93.3	-39.5	-43.9	1.2	18
Income									
Average weekly earnings (full-time; ordinary time) Original (\$)	Nov qtr 04	904.50	1.1	4.2	973.20	1.4	4.1	..	19
Trend (\$)	Nov qtr 04	907.60	1.6	4.8	973.20	1.1	3.6	..	19
Labour price index (total hourly rate excluding bonuses) (c) (index no.)	Dec qtr 04	103.3	1.3	3.4	103.3	1.0	3.6	..	20
Financial markets									
Secured housing finance (d)									
Original (\$m)	Dec 04	754.7	-1.6	8.9	11,270.1	-1.1	6.2	6.7	21
Trend (\$m)	Dec 04	691.6	1.5	9.4	10,808.1	1.4	5.3	6.4	21
Finance commitments									
Personal (\$m)	Dec 04	396.8	-11.9	-14.2	6,392.0	-3.0	-5.4	6.2	22
Commercial (\$m)	Dec 04	1,008.3	-14.5	-43.9	29,116.0	12.8	-5.4	3.5	22
Lease (\$m)	Dec 04	17.5	0.6	-2.2	581.0	11.9	2.1	3.0	22
Interest rates (b)									
Banks - new housing loans (%)	Dec 04	..	..	..	7.05	0.0	0.0	..	23
Banks - business loans									
Small, medium businesses (e) (%)	Dec 04	..	..	..	8.85	0.0	0.0	..	23
Large business (%)	Dec 04	..	..	..	8.85	0.0	0.0	..	23

(a) Base year of each index 1989-90 = 100.

(b) Change is shown in terms of percentage points.

(c) Base year of index 2003-04 = 100.

(d) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

(e) Rate for business loans over \$50,000.

STATE SUMMARY

Indicator	Period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Source index
SELECTED INDICATORS										
CPI- All groups(a) (index no.)	Dec qtr 04	147.3	145.3	148.0	150.0	143.3	146.7	141.1	146.3	12
Participation rate trend (%)	Jan 05	62.4	64.3	65.7	61.4	66.3	58.6	69.9	73.1	16
Unemployment rate trend (%)	Jan 05	5.1	5.6	4.7	5.3	4.5	5.6	6.2	3.7	16
Average weekly earnings (full-time adults; ordinary time) trend (\$)	Nov qtr 04	1,002.50	992.10	910.00	907.60	982.50	885.70	983.70	1,109.00	19
SELECTED INDICATORS PER HEAD OF POPULATION (b)										
State final demand Chain volume measures trend (c) (\$'000)	Jun qtr 04	10.4	10.4	9.9	9.6	10.5	8.8	13.9	17.7	1
Retail turnover Current prices original (\$)	Dec 04	1,073.0	1,050.1	1,058.5	1,026.8	1,099.8	970.2	919.1	1,221.1	3
Current prices trend (\$)	Dec 04	821.7	796.1	831.6	784.2	839.4	724.6	813.0	946.4	3
New motor vehicle sales trend (no. per '000 population)	Jan 05	3.9	4.5	4.4	3.4	4.0	3.8	3.6	3.9	4
Private new capital expenditure Current prices trend (\$)	Dec qtr 04	594.1	591.0	666.9	614.6	1,205.7	572.5	1,945.8	567.9	5
Dwelling unit approvals Original (no. per '000 population)	Dec 04	0.467	0.573	0.788	0.570	0.984	0.537	0.570	1.679	7
Trend (no. per '000 population)	Dec 04	0.422	0.663	0.839	0.543	0.951	0.498	0.510	0.358	7
Secured housing finance (d) (\$)	Dec 04	611.7	517.6	558.1	491.9	633.1	336.2	505.2	431.5	21
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS PERIOD										
State final demand Chain volume measures trend (c)	Jun qtr 04	1.1	1.1	1.6	1.4	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.9	1
Retail turnover Current prices original	Dec 04	25.3	27.6	23.2	25.8	26.6	30.2	13.5	25.8	3
Current prices trend	Dec 04	-0.3	-0.2	-0.8	-0.2	-0.0	-0.1	-0.3	-0.1	3
New motor vehicle sales trend	Jan 05	0.9	0.8	0.5	-0.2	-0.2	1.3	-1.5	1.0	4
Private new capital expenditure Current prices trend (e)	Dec qtr 04	3.5	2.2	4.8	-1.3	4.2	13.6	-5.1	10.2	5

Dwelling unit approvals										
Original	Dec 04	6.0	-19.6	-2.2	-3.1	1.4	-4.4	28.1	98.5	7
Trend	Dec 04	-2.3	-1.3	-1.6	-1.6	-0.5	4.2	-4.9	19.8	7
CPI- All groups	Dec qtr 04	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.9	1.2	0.2	0.5	12
Participation rate trend (e)	Jan 05	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.5	16
Unemployment rate trend (e)	Jan 05	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	16
Average weekly earnings (full-time adults;ordinary time) trend	Nov qtr 04	0.4	2.0	0.8	1.6	1.5	1.8	1.6	2.0	19
Secured housing finance (d)	Dec 04	-0.7	0.7	-3.4	-1.6	-3.4	14.0	-5.3	0.7	21

(a) Base year of index 1989-90=100.

(b) The latest quarterly estimate of Australian resident population has been used to calculate ratios for subsequent periods.

(c) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2001-02.

(d) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

(e) Change is shown in terms of percentage points.

SOURCE INDEX FOR STATISTICAL & STATE SUMMARY TABLES

- 1 Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0) - and ABS data available on request
- 2 International Trade in Goods and Services (cat. no. 5368.0) Quarterly and International Merchandise Imports (cat. no. 5349.0) Monthly. Further detail available on request and in the associated data cubes.
- 3 Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0) Monthly
- 4 Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia (cat. no. 9314.0) Monthly
- 5 Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia (cat. no. 5625.0) Quarterly - and Ausstats data.
- 6 Tourist Accommodation, Australia (cat. no. 8635.0) Quarterly
- 7 Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0) Monthly
- 8 Building Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8752.0) Quarterly
- 9 Engineering Construction Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8762.0) Quarterly
- 10 Livestock Products, Australia (cat. no. 7215.0) Quarterly - and ABS data available on request.
- 11 Actual and Expected Private Mineral Exploration, Australia (cat. no. 8412.0) Quarterly
- 12 Consumer Price Index (cat. no. 6401.0) Quarterly
- 13 Producer Price Indexes, Australia (cat. no. 6427.0) Quarterly
- 14 House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities (cat. no. 6416.0) Quarterly

- 15 Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0) Quarterly
- 16 Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) Monthly
- 17 Job Vacancies, Australia (cat. no. 6354.0) Quarterly
- 18 Industrial Disputes, Australia (cat. no. 6321.0) Monthly
- 19 Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0) Quarterly
- 20 Labour Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6345.0) Quarterly
- 21 Housing Finance, Australia (cat. no. 5609.0) Monthly
- 22 Lending Finance, Australia (cat. no. 5671.0) Monthly - and ABS data available on request.
- 23 Reserve Bank of Australia Bulletin

About this Release

ABOUT THIS RELEASE

Provides an up-to-date overview of what has been happening in the South Australian economy and contrasts the state's performance with that of the Australian economy. Provides details of movements in a range of economic indicators and also contains time series information.

Changing to electronic format, from the Feb 2004 release.

Explanatory Notes

Data Cubes (Final Issue) (I-Note) - Data Cubes

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